

COUNTRY East Germany Approved For Release 2004/02/10 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000900770002-6TOPIC Military Information from Weimar

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1CDATE OF CONTENT 19 January to 15 February 195325X1C
DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 16 March 1953

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. From 2 to 12 February 1953, the Luetzendorf Kaserne on Ettersburger Strasse, between Luetzendorfer Strasse and on Am Herrenroedchen, was occupied by about 7,000 to 8,000 troops, half of whom wore black-bordered crimson epaulets, red-bordered black epaulets and included some with signal and motor transport insignia. Troops practiced rifle, light machine gun and, sometimes, heavy machine gun firing on the target ranges behind the installation almost daily during the period of observation. 25X1C

2. During the period from 2 to 12 February, the Tannenberg Kaserne on Ettersburger Strasse, north of on Am Herrenroedchen, quartered about 4,000 soldiers and was guarded by sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets and, on some days, tank insignia. A resident stated that about 30 tanks and mortars of various calibers were in the garages. Four 120-mm mortars were seen entering the installation during the period of observation. Motor vehicles [REDACTED] were seen driving to, and from, the installation. 25X1C

3. On 30 January, 700 to 750 soldiers were seen at a roll call in the Flak Kaserne east of Ettersburger Strasse north of the Tannenberg Kaserne. They later entered the barracks buildings. Three trucks [REDACTED] each towing a 82-mm mortar drove to the target range behind the installation where firing with heavy machine guns was conducted. Motor vehicles [REDACTED] were seen driving to, and from, the installation. 25X1C

4. On 7 February, the Panzer Kaserne between Jenaer Strasse and Kegel Bruecke was occupied by about 80 soldiers wearing black-bordered black or blue-bordered black epaulets including some with signal insignia. The main building was about 20 percent lighted at dusk. On 24 January, 30 soldiers were observed lined up and, on 31 January, about 40 soldiers drilling in the barracks yard. On 14 February, about 200 poles for overhead line construction, 2 equipment cars and other signal equipment were noticed near the board fence. The equipment was guarded by a sentry. 25X1C

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5. On 7 February, the Nachrichten Kaserne south of Leipzig Allee west of Duerer Strasse was occupied by 400 to 500 soldiers wearing black-bordered black or blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. On 13 February, the barracks buildings were lighted at dusk. On 14 February, about 50 soldiers were observed drilling in the barracks yard. [redacted]

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6. About 9 a.m. on 28 January, 6 two-axle prime movers [redacted] each towing an AA gun; 4 trucks which were occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 1 truck loaded with baggage moved toward Nohra. Motor vehicles driving to, and from, the Fliegerhorst in Nohra [redacted]

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7. On 2 February, the Luetzendorf Kaserne was occupied by about 1,200 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and black-bordered crimson epaulets; 500 uniformed women; and a military hospital. On 24 January, about 40 soldiers carrying rifles and targets were seen leaving the installation and marching toward the target range. On 28 January, about 100 soldiers were lined up in front of the garages. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen driving to, and from, the installation.¹

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8. On 2 February, the Tannenberg Kaserne was occupied by about 2,800 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery or motor transport insignia. On 28 January, about 90 soldiers were lined up near an entrance of the installation. At 2:51 p.m., on 2 February, about 30 soldiers carrying rifles and targets entered the installation, coming from the direction of the AA target range. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen driving to, and from, the installation.²

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9. Four pages with notes on guard personnel dated 22 through 23 and 25 through 26 November 1952 were found west of the Tannenberg Kaserne and Luetzendorf Kaserne on 2 February 1953.

10. On 2 February, the Panzer Kaserne was occupied by about 50 soldiers and guarded by sentries wearing blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. On 29 January, about 110 soldiers left the installation toward the Nachrichten Kaserne. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen driving to, and from, the installation.

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11. On 2 February, the Nachrichten Kaserne was occupied by about 180 soldiers. Three radio trucks with trailers were parked in front of a barracks building. Fifteen to 20 soldiers were with each truck. On 29 January, about 160 soldiers received basic training in the barracks yard. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen driving to, and from, the installation.

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12. On 2 February, the Fliegerhorst in Nohra was occupied by a headquarters. [redacted]

1. [redacted] Comment. As previous reports mentioned only 3,000 to 4,000 soldiers as occupying the Luetzendorf Kaserne and as this appears to check with the capacity of this barracks installation, it is believed that [redacted] paragraph 1 reported

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an exaggerated occupation estimate of about one third. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The branch-of-service insignia mentioned in paragraph 1 indicate the signal unit which is also carried there. The tank battalion of the 65th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div cannot be confirmed by the present information.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. With no occupation strength exceeding 3,000 soldiers previously reported, the estimates on the Tannenberg Kaserne given in paragraph 2 appear exaggerated as those of the Luetzendorf Kaserne. [REDACTED] The Comment in the referenced report concerning this barracks installation mentioned the possibility that the 581st Mort Regt (US) of the 20th Gds Mecz Div had been stationed in Jena since the fall of 1952, rather than Weimar. The information by a resident on mortars of various calibers seen in this barracks installation as well as a shipment with elements of this regiment which went from Ohrdruf to Weimar on 17 February 1953 definitely confirm the regiment as still stationed in Weimar. [REDACTED] However, the available information on this barracks installation is insufficient for a definite identification of this regiment. The 30 tanks can only belong to the tank battalion of the 65th Gds Mecz Regt. On the other hand, previous reports also contained sufficient indications that the battalion might also be stationed in the Luetzendorf Kaserne. The fact that the tanks were mentioned in connection with the two barracks installations was probably because of the location of the two installations and the quartering of the regiment there which make it possible that, for training reasons, the tanks may appear at both barracks areas.

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3. [REDACTED] Comment. The headquarters in Nohra which is reported for the first time [REDACTED] confirms the headquarters of the Eighth Gds Army until 2 February 1953. No changes in the occupation appear to have occurred at the other barracks installations in Weimar since mid-January. [REDACTED]

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